

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

RSC-01 PRS-01 L-03 SEC-03 SCS-03 SCA-01 EB-11 COME-00

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DRAFTED BY ARA/ CEN: LAPEZZULLO: PW

3/12/73:20630

APPROVED BY ARA: DAVID LAZAR

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R 122025 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045078

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PGOV EFIN CS

SUBJECT: VESCO CASE - NUSBAUM

1. MR. SIMON NUSBAUM VISITED CEN OFFICERS ON MARCH 7 TO DISCUSS THE VESCO CASE. HE RECOUNTED IN SOME DETAIL HIS ACTIVITIES IN COSTA RICA, GIVING SPECIFIC EMPHASIS TO ALLEGED THREATS THAT HE WOULD BE PREVENTED FROM RETURNING TO SAN JOSE TO PURSUE THE CASE. ACCORDING TO NUSBAUM, ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 1 HE RECEIVED A " CALL FROM A FRIENDLY NEWSMAN" WHO WARNED HIM THAT STEPS WERE BEING CONTEMPLATED TO PREVENT HIM FROM RETURNING TO COSTA RICA. NUSBAUM SAID HE TOLD THE CALLER THAT HE RESENTED SUCH THREATS, WHICH HE CONSIDERED PROVOCATIVE AND UNBECOMING TO A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY. NUSBAUM DEPARTED COSTA RICA THE FOLLOWING MORNING WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.

2. NUSBAUM SAID HE RECEIVED A CALL ON THE EVENING OF MARCH 6 FROM JOEL PHILLIPS, THE PUBLISHER OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TICO TIMES, WHO ALLEDGEDLY TOLD NUSBAUM THAT " HE HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT NUSBAUM HAD BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE COUNTRY." NUSBAUM DENIED THE RUMORS.

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3. REGARDING THE CRIMINAL CHARGES HE FILED IN COSTA RICA, NUSBAUM SAID HE HAD DECIDED TO KEEP THE MATTER ALIVE AND HAD CABLED THE PROCURADOR GENERAL THAT HE WAS APPEALING THE DECISION. HE PLANS TO FOLLOW UP THE CABLE WITH A LETTER WHICH CONTESTS THE COURT DECISION. NUSBAUM SAID HE WANTS TO USE THE CASE IN COSTA RICA TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE CASE IN NEW YORK.

4. ACCORDING TO NUSBAUM, THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE IS PUBLISHING REPORTS OF ITS INVESTIGATIONS. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TWO COPIES OF EACH REPORT.

5. COMMENT: NUSBAUM WAS PARTICULARLY PERTURBED ABOUT THE RUMORS THAT HE WOULD BE DENIED RE- ENTRY INTO COSTA RICA. HE INDICATED THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO DO SO WOULD BE MET ON HIS PART BY STRONG PROTEST " TO THE U. S. EMBASSY." WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF EMBASSY WOULD REMAIN ALERT TO ANY INDICATIONS WHICH WOULD GIVE CREDENCE TO NUSBAUM'S ALLEGATIONS. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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